



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

re

U.S. application:

Mitsutoshi NAKAMURA

For:

IMAGE FORMING METHOD

U.S. Serial No.:

10/081,699

Confirmation No.:

1268

Filed:

February 22, 2002

Group Art Unit:

2871

Examiner:

To Be Assigned

Assistant Director

for Patents

Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Director for Patents, Washington, DC 20231, on

APRIL 8, 2002

Date of Deposit

JAMES W. WILLIAMS

Name of Applicant, Assignee, or Registered Representative

James W. Williams
Signature

APRIL 8, 2002

Date of Signature

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

In compliance with the duty of disclosure set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicant wishes to bring the following item to the attention of the Examiner. A copy of the document is enclosed for the convenience of the Examiner.

No representation is made, and no representation is intended, that more relevant material does not exist, or that the order of presentation of this material in any way reflects its relative pertinence. The reference cited below is not intended to constitute an admission of any kind.

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Specifically, this presentation is not an admission that the item listed below is properly citable against the above-identified application.

Tamaoki et al., U.S. Patent No. 6,103,431, issued August 15, 2000.

Applicant considers the invention to be distinguishable over the above-cited document.

As this Information Disclosure Statement is being filed within three months of the filing date or before the mailing date of a first Office Action on this merits, whichever occurs last, no fee is required. If it should be determined that a fee is required, please charge any required fee (other than the issue fee) during the pendency of this application to Sidley Austin Brown & Wood LLP's Deposit Account No. 18-1260. Please credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 18-1260.

Respectfully submitted,

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